



*Constituent of the
American Academy of
Physician Assistants*

Support of SB380

Mr. Chairman, and members of the House Health Policy Committee, thank you for considering Senate Bill 380 today. This bill will remove an inefficiency in the current practice of patient care. Michigan's public health code already recognizes the ability of a Physician Assistant (PA) to prescribe outpatient therapies and treatments, as we always practice medicine under the supervision of a physician. Currently, however, when a PA prescribes Physical Therapy for their patient, the code governing the practice of Physical Therapy requires an additional step of requiring a signature by an MD or DO since PAs, a "subfield" of medicine, are excluded from ordering physical therapy. This process is burdensome for the PA, the physician, and the therapist and sometimes leads to delays in treatment for the patient.

This bill will not increase, or change the scope of practice for the Physician Assistant. Prescribing Physical Therapy is an integral part of the PA practice as it is for Physicians and SB380 will not reduce the level of supervision or oversight by the physician as required by Michigan law.

Please support this bill, and I thank you again for your time.

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